

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 01933 200109Z

14/22

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 034310

R 171451Z FEB 76 (CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN ONLY)

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8176

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIA ABABA 1933

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, ET

SUBJ: JAILED PRINCESSES REPORTED ILL

1. EMBASSY HAS NOW CROSSCHECKED WELL SOURCED REPORTS WHICH BEGAN TO REACH US FEB. 11 ASSERTING THAT SEVERAL OF THE LONG IMPRISONED IMPERIAL PRINCESSES ARE "OUT OF THEIR MINDS" IN GAOL.
2. REGRETTABLY ACCORDING OUR SOURCES, THERE MAY BE SOME SUBSTANCE TO THESE REPORTS.
3. IT APPEARS THAT THE RELATIVES OF PRINCESS ZURIASH WORQ, "ONE OF HER DAUGHTERS" AND PRINCESS YEASHASHE WORQ HAVE RECEIVED HANDWRITTEN NOTES WHICH ASSERT OR FROM WHICH THEY CONCLUDE THAT THESE WOMEN ARE CURRENTLY NOT IN THEIR RIGHT MINDS. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THEIR CONDITION IS ONE OF EXTREME DEPRESSION OR IS SOMETHING WORSE.
4. PRINCESS TENAGEN WORQ HAS ALSO SENT WORD SHE IS UNWELL, BUT HER (UNSPECIFIED) PROBLEMS APPEAR TO BE PHYSICAL.
5. RELATIVES ARE NOT BEING PERMITTED TO SEE THE IMPRISONED

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PRINCESSES ALTHOUGH THEIR SONS, BEING HELD
IN THE OLD GHIBBI ON MENELIK HILL, ARE BEING VISITED
AND ARE SAID TO BE WELL. PRINCESSES ARE COMMUNICATING
SOLELY THROUGH CHITS BEING PASSED OUT TO RELATIVES.
IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER THEY ARE BEING ALLOWED ADEQUATE
MEDICAL CARE. DEPT WILL HOWEVER HAVE NOTED THAT ICRC
REP WAS RECENTLY REFUSED ACCESS TO THEM.

6. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SUBSTANCE PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS
LIKELY SURFACE SHORTLY IN SWEDISH PARLIAMENT. IF SO
REPERCUSSIONS COULD PROVE SIGNIFICANT.
HUMMEL

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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